


NCLR
NATIONAL CENTER FOR LESBIAN RIGHTS

LGBT YOUTH IN CALIFORNIA FOSTER CARE

Legal and Professional Standards



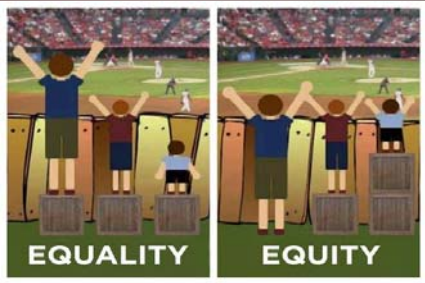
The audacity to fight for justice.
The perseverance to win.

NCLR **AB 458**
NATIONAL CENTER FOR LESBIAN RIGHTS

- The right to fair and equal access to services, placement, care, treatment and benefits
- The right to NOT be subjected to discrimination or harassment on the basis of actual or perceived SO/GI

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EQUALITY **EQUITY**

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Core Protections

- Safety
- Permanency
- Well-Being



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Safety

- Decrease risk factors and increase protective factors
 - Home
 - School
 - Community



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Home

(Family Acceptance Project 2009)

<p>Behaviors that Help</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk with your child about their SO/GI • Advocate for your child when he or she is mistreated • Express affection when you learn your child is LGBT • Require that family members respect your child 	<p>Behaviors to Avoid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pressuring your child to be more of less feminine or masculine • Telling your child that God will punish them • Blaming your child when they are mistreated • Making your child keep their LGBT identity a secret
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School

Risk Factors

- School-based victimization increases risk
 - Truancy
 - School failure
 - Depression
 - Low self esteem
 - Lack of positive peer connections

Protective Factors


- Safe and affirming schools increase well-being
 - School engagement
 - Academic success
 - Positive peer relations
 - Hope for the future

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Permanency

- Increase family acceptance
- Decrease reliance on group care
- Work with youth to identify permanent connections
- Increase and diversify LGBT affirming placements
- Train and support caregivers



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Well-Being

- Understand the health and mental health effects of stigma
- Ensure access to affirming, competent providers
- Intervene to address harassment or discrimination
- Provide healthy social and recreational outlets

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